

House Resolution 1212

By: Representatives Manning of the 32nd, Glanton of the 76th, and Burns of the 157th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and recognizing the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since 1973, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia has
4 worked to improve the lives of Georgia's women, children, and families; and

5 WHEREAS, the coalition carries out its mission through programs such as free breastfeeding
6 classes and the *Powerline*, a state-wide, toll-free, bilingual telephone information and referral
7 system for health care services that showed a shortage of Medicaid providers and dentists;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia used *Powerline* data
10 that showed a shortage of Medicaid accepting dentists to successfully lobby for an increase
11 in Medicaid which brought about greater access to dental care for this underserved
12 population; and

13 WHEREAS, it has been shown that untreated dental disease in pregnant women has been
14 linked to preterm births as well as data showing dental problems to be one of the leading
15 causes of school absenteeism for children; and

16 WHEREAS, its members also carry out their initiatives though serving the community and
17 collaborating by encouraging communication and networking among policy makers,
18 professionals, advocates, and others through an annual legislative breakfast, annual
19 conference, newsletters, and legislative alerts; and

20 WHEREAS, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition assisted with the passage of a
21 law that requires insurance companies to provide at least two days of hospital stay following
22 a normal vaginal birth and four days following a C-section; and

1 WHEREAS, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition was instrumental in advocacy
2 efforts in 2000-2003 to maintain Medicaid eligibility rates at 200 percent; and

3 WHEREAS, through its state-wide network of grassroots advocates, the coalition has
4 improved access to prenatal and preventative health services for thousands of women,
5 children, and families during the last quarter of a century; and

6 WHEREAS, with this long history and tradition, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies
7 Coalition of Georgia continues to be the strongest state-wide voice in Georgia for maternal
8 and child health issues; and

9 WHEREAS, most importantly, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia
10 serves a vital role in linking public and private initiatives, resulting in the reduction of
11 duplication of services, the elimination of barriers to existing services, and the effective
12 utilization of limited health care resources.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
14 the members of this body commend and recognize the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies
15 Coalition of Georgia for the exemplary work it does in the area of health care for Georgia's
16 women, children, and families.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
18 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Healthy Mothers,
19 Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia.